

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USBERL 01424 211735Z

45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 IO-10 OMB-01 SAJ-01 /073 W

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R 211710Z JUL 75

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1196

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1424

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GE, UR

SUBJECT: GDR PROTESTS ALLEGED JULY 18 BORDER

SHOOTING

1. GDR FOREIGN MINISTRY ALLEGED IN TELEX TO SENAT JULY 18 THAT PERSONS FROM WEST BERLIN HAD VIOLATED GDR-WEST BERLIN BORDER IN GROSS GLIENICKER AREA IN EARLY MORNING HOURS AND HAD FIRED UPON GDR BORDER GUARDS, ONE OF WHOM HAD BEEN SERIOUSLY INJURED. PERPETRATORS OF ACT WERE SAID TO HAVE ESCAPED UNRECOGNIZED INTO WEST BERLIN. FOREIGN MINISTRY ENTERED "RESOLUTE" PROTEST AGAINST THIS "SERIOUS BORDER INCIDENT" AND "CRIMINAL MURDER ATTEMPT," AND DEMANDED THAT SENAT TAKE STEPS TO BRING PERPETRATORS TO JUSTICE AND TO PREVENT SUCH INCIDENTS IN FUTURE.

2. CONCURRENTLY, IN AFTERNOON JULY 18, SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELLOR KHOTULEV BROUGHT INCIDENT TO ATTENTION OF BRITISH (CHAIRMAN) POLAD DURING CALL ON OTHER BUSINESS, NOTING THAT GDR INTENDED TO SEND PROTEST TO SENAT. ONLY
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PAGE 02 USBERL 01424 211735Z

ADDITIONAL DETAILS KHOTULEV WAS ABLE TO SUPPLY WERE

THAT INCIDENT HAD TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN 3:30 AND 4:00 A. M.,
AND THAT SHOOTING HAD OCCURRED AS BORDER GUARDS SOUGHT
TO DETAIN ALLEGED INTRUDERS.

3. WEST BERLIN PRESS REPORTED ALLEGED INCIDENT JULY 19 ON
BASIS OF ADN STORY VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL TO FOREIGN
MINISTRY TELEX TO SENAT. POLICE SPOKESMAN WAS CITED TO
EFFECT THAT INQUIRIES WITH POLICE AND CUSTOMS OFFICIALS
STATIONED IN AREA HAD THUS FAR UNCOVERED NO SUBSTANCE FOR
ADN ALLEGATIONS. SUBSEQUENTLY, AS REPORTED IN PRESS JULY 20,
SENAT REQUESTED GDR FOR PRECISE INFORMATION AS TO TIME AND
LOCATION OF INCIDENT, AND FOR ANY OTHER AVAILABLE DETAILS.
WE ARE ADVISED AS OF 1700 HOURS, JULY 21, THAT GDR HAS
NOT YET RESPONDED. IN MEANTIME, POLICE WHO HAD ORDERED
INVESTIGATION JULY 18, HAVE TOLD US THEY HAVE NO FURTHER
INFORMATION AND SPECULATE INCIDENT MAY HAVE BEEN CONCOCTED
TO COVER SHOOTING IN CONJUNCTION WITH POSSIBLE
ESCAPE ATTEMPT. GEORGE

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NNN

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06 JUL 2006

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